

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Synthetic peptides based on a complementarity-determining region (CDR) of the heavy or light chain of a pathogenic anti-DNA monoclonal antibody that induces a systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)-like disease in mice, and analogs, and salts and chemical derivatives thereof; dual peptides comprising two such peptides or analogs covalently linked to one another either directly or through a short linking chain; peptide polymers comprising a plurality of sequences of said peptide or analog thereof; and peptide polymers attached to a macromolecular carrier, are disclosed, and pharmaceutical compositions comprising them for the treatment of SLE in humans.